

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 06044 231834Z
ACTION ARA-14

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-----020841 240024Z /21

R 231710Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3328
INFO PANCANAL
USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 6044

DEPT FOR ARA/PAF AND PAN
USCINCSO FOR J-2 AND PAO
PANCANAL FOR IO

EO 111652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PN
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTIONS

FOLG SENT ACTION PRIORITY USINFO WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC
AUGUST 23 FROM USIS/PANAMA RPTD YOUR ACTION/INFO

QUOTE
UNCLAS

SECSTATE FOR ARA/PAF AND PAN

EO 11652: N/A

MEDIA REACTION

1. PANAMA CITY.-TREATY COVERAGE CONTINUES HEAVY WITH SIX TREATY
STORIES PAGE ONE LA ESTRELLA INCLUDING LEAD STORY: BUENOS AIRES,
UPI, "ONE TALKS OF ANNEXING THE CANAL ZONE: SENATORS OPPOSED TO
TREATY ON TOUR IN CONTINENT." GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED CRITICA
HEADLINES AND MATUTINO FRONT-PAGES WASHINGTON, UPI, STORY ON
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PAGE 02 PANAMA 06044 231834Z

PRESIDENT CARTER'S DINNER INVITATION TO SENATOR ROBERT BYRD.
CRITICA HEAD: "TREATY RATIFICATION COULD BE DELAYED UNTIL 1978."

2. MATUTINO'S LEAD EDIT, "THE VOICES OF REASON," REFERS TO
WORLDWIDE MEDIA SUPPORT FOR THE TREATY. "AND THE INVARIABLE
CONSENSUS," CLAIMS MATUTINO, "WITHOUT DIFFERENCES THAT COULD
BE CAUSED BY DISTANCE, CLIMATE, GEOGRAPHY, RACE OR IDEOLOGY,

IS THAT THE UNITED STATES AND PANAMA, AFTER A LONG AND WELL WORTHWHILE STRUGGLE, HAVE FOUND THE PLACE WHERE THEIR RESPECTIVE INTERESTS CONVERGE. THESE INTERESTS WHICH ALSO COINCIDE WITH THE WORLD'S INTERESTS ARE MOVING TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF A STATE OF COMPREHENSION, COLLABORATION AND HARMONY WITHIN WHICH WE CAN ALL BENEFIT PROPORTIONATELY FROM THE USE OF THE WORK BUILT BY THE UNITED STATES WITH THE RAW MATERIAL OF PANAMANIAN TERRITORY, THE ONLY SOVEREIGN WITHIN THE BORDERS DESCRIBED IN ITS POLITICAL CONSTITUTION."

3. GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED TABLOID CRITICA IN ITS LEAD EDIT "BLACKMAIL BY INSULT," ATTACKS SENATORS THURMOND AND HELMS WHO ACCUSED PANAMA OF "BLACKMAIL" BY ITS THREAT OF VIOLENCE AS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO A NEW TREATY. "THUMOND IS THE BLACKMAILER," SAYS CRITICA, "WITH HIS CHEAP POLITICS OVER THE TREATY, TRYING TO SATISFY AN ELECTORATE WHICH SCORNS HIM BECAUSE IT KNOWS HIS RACIST AND ANTI-LABOR TENDENCIES. IT IS TRUE THAT GENERAL TORRIJOS SAID THAT IF THE U.S. SENATE REJECTED TREATY, PANAMA WOULD UTILIZE OTHER THAN PACIFIC MEANS TO ACHIEVE DECOLONIZATION. BUT THAT ISN'T BLACKMAIL. IT'S THE SACRED RIGHT OF A NATION WHICH HAVING LOST ALL PATIENCE WILL FACE COLONIAL IMPERIALISM WITH OTHER ARMS THAN THOSE USED AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE." ITEM UNQUOTE

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PAGE 03 PANAMA 06044 231834Z

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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ISecure: 1
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Subject: MEDIA REACTIONS FOLG SENT ACTION PRIORITY USINFO WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC AUGUST 23 FROM USIS/PANAMA
RPTD YOUR ACTION/INFO
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